

Memorandum

To : All Brand Inspectors

Date: September 21, 2007

Place: Sacramento

Telephone: 916-654-1262

From : Department of Food and Agriculture - Greg Lawley, Bureau Chief
Bureau of Livestock Identification

Subject : Bulls Sold at California Salesyards – Trichomonosis Testing

In a cooperative effort with the Animal Health Branch, effective Friday, October 5, 2007, brand inspectors working at California salesyards will apply green tags to the back of bulls 18 months of age or older that are not accompanied with a negative trichomonosis test result from a certified veterinarian. The Bureau of Livestock Identification's participation in this animal health issue is a result of our infrastructure of having staff at all salesyards and the desire of the California cattle industry to limit the spread of trichomonosis.

The green tag will be the same tag that is used on dairy cows sold with a Dairy Exemption Number. Without the negative trichomonosis test result, bulls can only be sold for slaughter or to a feedlot designated for slaughter only. The enclosed letter from Dr. Breitmeyer provides additional details.

If a bull arrives at the salesyard without the negative trichomonosis test, and you are unsure of the age, contact the livestock inspector assigned to the salesyard. If you cannot contact the livestock inspector, contact the Veterinarian In Charge (VIC) for the appropriate district (See enclosed map). If no one is available from the Animal Health Branch, permit the bull to be sold and notify the VIC at your earliest opportunity.

I apologize for the delayed timing of this notice. To facilitate implementation of the tagging process, green tags have been shipped to the brand inspectors that work at salesyards that traditionally do not sell dairy cattle. For brand inspectors that work at salesyards that routinely apply green tags, please contact Headquarters if you need more tags.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

cc: Regional Brand Supervisors

Enclosures